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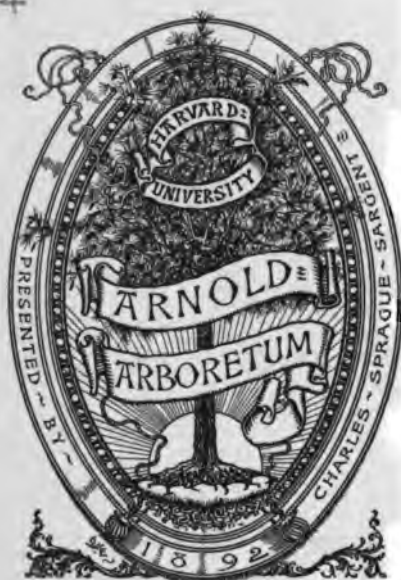
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REPORT  
ON SOME OF THE MORE REMARKABLE  
HARDY ORNAMENTAL PLANTS  
RAISED IN  
THE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S GARDEN FROM SEEDS  
RECEIVED FROM  
MR. DAVID DOUGLAS, IN THE YEARS 1831, 1832, 1833.

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BY  
GEORGE BENTHAM, Esq. F. L. S.

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1834.

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## REPORT, &c.

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*Read before the Horticultural Society, June 17, 1834.*

### RIBES GLUTINOSUM.

*R. inerme*, foliis cordatis subquinelobis serratis venosis utrinque glabriusculis subviscosis, racemis 30-40-floris laxis pubescentibus folio duplo triplo longioribus, pedicellis flore longioribus, calycibus tubuloso-campanulatis : laciniis oblongis obtusis patentibus petala (rubra) integerrima superantibus, bracteis oblongo-lanceolatis, baccis turbinatis hirsutis.

**T**HE few plants raised of this species have not yet flowered, but from the dried specimens transmitted by Mr. DOUGLAS it promises to exceed the *R. sanguineum* in beauty ; in foliage it only differs from that species, by being destitute of down and slightly viscous ; but the bunches of flowers are twice the length, containing at least from thirty to forty flowers, which are borne on long slender pedicels, the flowers are red, but the dried state of the specimen does not admit of any opinion being formed as to the intensity of the colour. It is quite hardy and grows vigorously in common garden soil.

### RIBES MALVACEUM.

*R. inerme*, foliis cordatis 3-5-lobis serratis supra rugosissimis hispido-scabris subtus venosis villosa-tomentosis, racemis laxis pubescentibus folio vix longioribus, pedicellis brevissimis, calycibus tubuloso-campanulatis : laciniis ovatis obtusis patentibus, petalis brevissimis orbiculatis subretusis, bracteis ovatis, baccis ovoideis hirtis.

This is another species allied to *R. sanguineum*, but which has not yet flowered in the garden. The young plants however, as

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well as the dried specimens are decidedly different from those of *R. sanguineum*, by the leaves, which are very rough and hispid on the upper side, and clothed underneath with a whitish cottony down. The bunches of flowers are shorter and closer than in *R. sanguineum*, and each flower is nearly sessile on the common stalk. As far as we can at present judge from the plants in the Garden, it is as hardy as *R. sanguineum*, and quite as easily propagated.

##### LEPTOSIPHON ANDROSACEUS. (Plate 18. fig. 1.)

*L. androsaceus.* *Benth. in Bot. Reg. ad. calc. n. 1622.*

This is a bushy annual, growing to the height of eight or ten inches, smooth in the lower part, with the upper leaves and extremities of the branches slightly downy. The leaves are opposite and sessile, but divided nearly to the base into a number of linear segments, so as to appear to be whorled. The flowers are collected into terminal heads surrounded at their base by a number of floral leaves, divided, like the stem-leaves, into linear segments. The long slender tube of the corolla projects beyond these leaves and bears at the top five spreading oval divisions varying in colour from white to pale blue and pink. The multitude of these flowers gives the plant a very gay appearance, and as it is perfectly hardy and promises to seed well, there is no doubt but that in a short time it will be found an important addition to our flower-beds.

##### LEPTOSIPHON DENSIFLORUS. (Plate 18. fig. 2.)

*L. densiflorus.* *Benth. in Bot. Reg. l. c.*

In general appearance and mode of growth this plant is very similar to the preceding species. The leaves are, however, somewhat longer and finer, and the flowers, with a shorter and thicker tube, have the border more than twice as large and less spreading. The colour of the flower varies in the same degree.

Both these plants thrive in a poor sandy soil and an exposed



1 *Leptosiphon androsaceus*. 2 *Leptosiphon densiflorus*. 3 *Gilia tricolor*.



situation; they bear the sun remarkably well, and will live through a mild winter: but in that case they become unsightly; it is better to renew them every year from seeds.

## GILIA TRICOLOR. (Plate 18. fig. 3.)

*G. tricolor.* *Benth. in Bot. Reg. l. c.*

This is perhaps the handsomest of the new Polemonideæ received from California, both from the general appearance of the plant and the abundance and brilliancy of colour of the flowers. It grows to the height of about a foot, with an erect stem and foliage much resembling that of the *G. capitata*, but the flowers are very much longer, and instead of being collected in globose heads widely spread at the end of long peduncles, they are few in number in each head, but the peduncles being much shorter and very numerous, they form a large and rather dense panicle in which the deep orange of the centre of the colour and the light blue or white of the margin, separated by a circle of deep purple, show off to great advantage. It will probably be quite as easy of growth as the *G. capitata*.

Two other new species of the same tribe of Polemonideæ, from amongst those described under the above quoted number in the Botanical Register, have been raised in the garden. The one, *Gilia achilleæfolia*, figured in the Botanical Register, v. 20, t. 1682, only differs from *G. capitata* in some botanical characters and by a darker shade of the flowers. The other, *G. pharnaceoides*, (belonging to the section or rather genus *Dactylophyllum*) did not prove much worth cultivation. But amongst those sent in a dried state there are many that it would be highly desirable to obtain for our gardens. Should any collector again visit that rich country, I would particularly point out all the genus *Hugelia*, the *Leptosiphon grandiflorus*, *Fenzlia dianthiflora*, *Gilia liniflora*, and *G. tenuiflora*.

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### PHACELIA TANACETIFOLIA.

*P. caule erecto, foliis bipinnatisectis : segmentis oblongis dentatis suprennis confluentibus, staminibus exsertis.*

This is a more elegant and less weedy plant than the *P. circinnata* now common in gardens. It grows to the height of a foot and a half or two feet. The stems are erect, not much branched, bearing a few rigid and reflexed hairs. The leaves are altogether from 3 to 5 inches long; the primary segments, especially the lower ones, are slightly petiolated, from 8 to 12 in number on each leaf and from half an inch to an inch distant. The secondary segments are from a quarter to half an inch long; those nearest the axis, sessile and distinct, the upper ones confluent; they are green on both sides, nearly glabrous, but covered with asperities. The flowers are of a light bluish violet colour, nearly sessile along one sided, spirally incurved racemes, forming together a dense dichotomous panicle placed at some distance from the upper leaves; the calyxes are covered with bristly hairs.

It is a hardy annual, thriving in any soil or situation.

### NEMOPHILA INSIGNIS.

*N. foliis oppositis pinnatifidis basi in petiolum angustatis : lobis integerrimis 1-2 dentatisve, calycis sinibus reflexis, corollis calyce duplo longioribus, ovariis multi-ovulatis.*

This elegant species of *Nemophila* is readily distinguished by the size of the flowers which are larger even than those of *N. phacelioides* (figured in the Botanical Magazine, t. 2373.) It is a low procumbent herb, but less straggling than *N. parviflora* and *pedunculata*. The leaves are from one to two inches long, green, with a few rigid hairs; the lobes from 3 to 5 on each side, deeply cut, but not reaching the midrib, of nearly equal size on the same leaf, ovate and slightly falcate. The peduncles axillary, solitary, one-flowered, nearly twice as long as the leaves. Flowers blue, above an inch in diameter. The ovary contains usually 20 or 24 ovula



regularly arranged on each side of the central line of the broad fleshy placenta, and from 8 to 12 of these ovula usually attain maturity in each capsule.

It is a hardy annual, requiring a rich soil, not damp, and a situation fully exposed to the sun; it must be protected carefully from wet when forming its seeds or they will not ripen; indeed it produced its seeds in the garden very sparingly, with all the care that could be given to it.

COLLINSIA BICOLOR.

*C. foliis ovato-lanceolatis basi subcordatis, laciniis calycinis ovatis.*

This is a taller growing and rather more straggling plant than the *C. grandiflora*, with flowers twice the size. The whole plant is smooth, with a somewhat glaucous appearance. The lower leaves are petiolated, coarsely toothed on the margin and broadly heart-shaped at the base, the upper ones are sessile and entire. They are all obtuse, of a thick consistence, from 1 to 2 inches long. The floral leaves are very small and have in their axillæ from 2 to 4 flowers on each side of their stalk; the whole are placed at considerable distances from each other, forming long terminal racemes. The peduncles are shorter than the calyx and usually hairy as well as the calyx and the upper part of the flowering stem. The divisions of the calyx are very broad. The corollæ are precisely of the same form as in the *C. grandiflora*, but twice as large and varying in different shades of rose colour and purple mixed with white.

Mr. DOUGLAS sent the seeds of this plant under the name of "A new Genus allied to *Collinsia*." But the form and structure of the flowers and seed-vessels as well as the general habit are so exactly that of *Collinsia grandiflora*, that the two plants cannot be separated upon the sole distinction of the breadth of the divisions of the calyx. The plants raised last autumn are now flowering abundantly, and it is hoped that there will be seed enough ripened

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to distribute generally next winter, amongst the Fellows of the Society. It is an annual, and apparently a hardy one, growing freely in common garden soil, and preferring the open air, to the confinement of even a frame.

CHELONE CENTRANTHIFOLIA.

*C. glaberrima, glauca, foliis ovato-lanceolatis integerrimis basi cordato-amplexicaulibus, panicula elongata, corollis tubulosis pendulis glabris, filamento quinto imberbi.*

This plant resembles much the old *Chelone barbata*, from which it is chiefly distinguished by the broad base of the leaves and glabrous corolla. It grows to the height of three or four feet, half of which consists in a narrow lax panicle of pendulous scarlet flowers each about an inch long. It is very ornamental, and will probably require the same mode of treatment, and be as easy of cultivation as *Chelone barbata* itself.















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